

Statement of the Chief Minister Re : Communal Disturbance in Hubli City.

† Sri VEERENDRA PATIL.—I may be permitted to make a further statement on the communal disturbances in Hubli City.

On 10th March 1969 I have already made a statement relating to the regrettable clash that occurred in Hubli City on the afternoon of Saturday, the 8th March 1969 between the two communities. I had also indicated that a preliminary investigation disclosed that properties worth about Rs. 80,000 have been destroyed. Government have given anxious thought in regard to the relief that should be afforded to the victims. Government have now sanctioned a grant of Rs. 40,000 as relief to the victims of the communal disturbances. In addition, a sum of Rs. 40,000 is being placed at the disposal of the Deputy Commissioner, Dharwar, for granting interest-free loans to the sufferers. Instructions are being issued to the Deputy Commissioner that the quantum of relief and loan should be determined keeping in view the financial condition of each person or family and the actual damage suffered, after making a complete assessment in consultation with the concerned authorities.

Calling Attention to a matter of Urgent Public Importance Re : low water levy at Bhutanal tank in Bijapur.

Sri S. S. ARAKERE (Belloli).—I beg to call the attention of the Minister of State for Municipal Administration to the situation that has arisen due to low water level at Bhutanal Tank in Bijapur.

† Sri B. M. PATIL (Minister of State for Municipal Administration).—The present water level in the tank is at R. L. 1810 (as on 1st March 1969). The present bed level in the tank is at R. L. 1830. So the depth of water in the tank is 10' and the available storage of water is 86 M. Cft. Taking into consideration the evaporation losses and the daily consumption of water from Bhutnal tank to Bijapur City at the rate of 6.25 lakh gallons per day; the present storage will last for a period of 6 months, i.e., up to the end of August 1969, by which time showers are expected and the tank will get replenished.

Besides, emergency measures that were taken up during the last summer, mainly pumping water from the local wells for non-domestic use are still being continued. As such there is no anxiety in respect of water supply to Bijapur City, as apprehended.

However, to solve the problem of recurring scarcity of water supply to Bijapur City, permanently, comprehensive water supply scheme from Krishna River as source at an estimated cost of Rs. 123.00 lakhs is being taken up expeditiously for execution.